



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61K 9/00, 9/22, 31/21</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/62496 (43) International Publication Date: 9 December 1999 (09.12.99)</p>																										
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/11920 (22) International Filing Date: 27 May 1999 (27.05.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/087,787 3 June 1998 (03.06.98) US 09/253,317 19 February 1999 (19.02.99) US</p>		<p>(74) Agents: THOMAS, Susan, K. et al.; Alza Corporation, 950 Page Mill Road, P.O. Box 10950, Palo Alto, CA 94303-0802 (US). (81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MC, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TL, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p>																										
<p>(71) Applicant: ALZA CORPORATION [US/US]; 950 Page Mill Road, P.O. Box 10950, Palo Alto, CA 94303-0802 (US). (72) Inventors: AYER, Aml, D.; 931 Bautista Court, Palo Alto, CA 94303 (US). CHRISTOPHER, Carol, A.; 2638 Belmont Canyon Road, Belmont, CA 94002 (US). GUINTA, Diane, R.; 3588 Arbutus Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94303-4123 (US). GUPTA, Sunel, K.; 1331 Elsona Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (US). HAMEL, Lawrence, G.; 1215 Arbor Court, Mountain View, CA 94040 (US). HATAMKHANY, Zahedeh; 652 Villa Centre Way, San Jose, CA 95128 (US). LAM, Andrew, C.; 56 Baypark Circle, S. San Francisco, CA 94080 (US). SAKS, Samuel, P.; 2404 Hillside Drive, Burlingame, CA 94010 (US). SHIVANAND, Padmaja; 870 E. El Camino Real #44, Mountain View, CA 94040 (US). WEYERS, Richard, G.; 1487 Fallen Leaf Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024 (US). WRIGHT, Jeri, D.; 11305 Rolling Hills Drive, Dublin, CA 94568 (US).</p>		<p>Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i></p>																										
<p>(54) Title: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR PROVIDING PROLONGED DRUG THERAPY</p>																												
<table border="1"> <caption>Approximate data points from the graph</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>TIME (hrs)</th> <th>RELEASE RATE (mg/hr)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>4.1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>1.1</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>1.6</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>2.0</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>2.0</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>2.1</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>2.0</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>1.8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>0.1</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>0.1</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>0.1</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			TIME (hrs)	RELEASE RATE (mg/hr)	1	4.1	2	1.1	3	1.6	4	2.0	5	2.0	6	2.1	7	2.0	8	1.8	9	0.5	10	0.1	11	0.1	12	0.1
TIME (hrs)	RELEASE RATE (mg/hr)																											
1	4.1																											
2	1.1																											
3	1.6																											
4	2.0																											
5	2.0																											
6	2.1																											
7	2.0																											
8	1.8																											
9	0.5																											
10	0.1																											
11	0.1																											
12	0.1																											
<p>(57) Abstract Methods and devices for maintaining a desired therapeutic drug effect over a prolonged therapy period are provided. In particular, oral dosage forms that release drug within the gastrointestinal tract at an ascending release rate over an extended time period are provided. The dosage forms may additionally comprise an immediate-release dose of drug.</p>																												